S. D. Nickerson, Masonic Temple

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The FREEMASON

* * * * * * * * AND THE FEZ.

A Masonic and Fraternal Monthly Magazine

VOLUME VI. JUNE, 1898. No. 6.

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The FREEMASON AND THE FEZ.

In the Interests of Freemasonry, the Concordant Orders of Iowa, and Fraternity Generally.

VOLUME VI. CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA, JUNE, 1898. NUMBER 6

MASONRY IN SPAIN.

The atmosphere of Spain has never been favorable to Freemasonry. For 170 years the institution has struggled against persecution and ostracism, and although at the present time Masonry is recognized by the government, it is under the ban of the church and the 182 lodges in the country lead a feeble and furtive existence.

Masonry was introduced into Spain by the Grand Lodge of England in 1727. Llorente says that in 1741 Philip V issued a royal ordinance against the Masons, and in consequence many were arrested and sent to the galleys. The members of the lodge at Madrid were specially treated by the inquisition with great severity. All the members were arrested and eight of them sent to the galleys. In 1751 Ferdinand VI published a decree forbidding the assembling of Freemasons, and declared that all violators of it should be treated as persons guilty of high treason. In that year Pope Benedict XIV had renewed the bull of Clement XII against Freemasonry. In 1783 the Cardinal Vicar caused a decree of death to be promulgated against all Freemasons.

Notwithstanding these persecutions, Freemasonry continued to be cultivated in Spain, but the meetings of the lodges were held with great caution and secrecy. On the accession of Joseph Napoleon to the throne in 1807, the liberal sentiment that characterize the Napoleonic dynasty prevailed, and all restrictions against the Freemasons were removed.

In October, 1809, a National Grand Lodge of Spain was established. The York Rite, which had been formerly practiced, appears now to have been abandoned, and the Grand Lodge was constituted by three lodges of the Scottish Rite, which, during that year, had been established at Madrid. From that time the Masonry of Spain has been that of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. In 1814 Ferdinand VII, having succeeded to the throne, restored the inquisition, proscribed Freemasonry, and forbade the meetings of the Lodges. It was not until 1820 that the Grand Orient of Spain recovered its activity, and in 1821 we find a Supreme Council in actual existence.

On the death of Ferdinand VII in 1853, the persecutions against the Freemasons ceased, because in the civil war that ensued the priests lost much of their power. Between 1845 and 1849, according to Findel, several lodges were founded, and a Grand Orient established, which appears to have exercised powers up to 1848. But subsequently, during the reign of Isabella, Masonry again fell into decadence. It has now, however, revived, and in 1889 was recognized by the government.

In Cuba Freemasonry has had more freedom than in Spain, but has unfortunately suffered somewhat from internal dissensions. The Grand Lodge of the Island of Cuba was reconstituted by the union of all the active Lodges on the Island on December 24, 1891. It is composed of thirty-seven Lodges, with a membership of about 1,200 brethren. The Grand Master is Bro. Segundo Alvarez; deputy Grand Master, Bro. Prudencio Rabell; Grand Secretary, Bro. Jose Fernandez Pellon, all of Havana.

It has been freely stated that the Masonic Lodges of Cuba have been hotbeds of revolution, and have furnished material aid and comfort to the insurgents, but for this we are not prepared to vouch. — *Masonic Standard.*

THE LODGES.

GRAND LODGE OF IOWA.

The fifty-fifth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Iowa was held at Council Bluffs, June 7–10, 1898, and much like many of its predecessors was more to be noted for its social garnishment than for any startling deviation from the usual routine. The usual school under the direction of the Custodians was held from Saturday, 4th to Monday 6th, inclusive.

The Grand Lodge, proper, was opened at 9:30 a. m. Tuesday, with the usual preliminary exercises. The Grand Master's address followed. The day was given up largely to the "reports." The evening event was an entertainment at the Broadway M. E. Church, the program of which consisted of the following:

Music.....Apollo Club
Invocation.....
Address of Welcome (in behalf of the city,
.....Mayor Jennings
In behalf of the Masons of Council Bluffs
.....Judge Walter I. Smith
Music—"Comrades in Arms"..Dudley Buck Quartet
Address.....Grand Master Dewey
Music.....Apollo Club
Address.....Past Grand Commander Cleveland
Music—"Hark the Trumpet"....Simms Glee Club
Address.....Grand Secretary Parvin
Music—"The Star of Love".....Simms Glee Club

It is reported that this was the most largely attended session of any ever held in the state. This might be accounted for on the ground of the Exposition, but we aver not, rather do we think it is the untiring efforts of the citizens to make all feel welcome at their Masonic hearthside.

Wednesday morning the visit of the Grand officers of Nebraska was a pleasant deviation from the order of business and brought out a flow of fraternal congratulations with some seasoning wit. At the afternoon Session the great event of the session seemingly was the election of officers, and the Royal Robes of the "Ancient worthies fell upon the following well qualified brothers, to-wit.

Grand Master—Crom Bowen, Des Moines.
Senior Grand Warden—W. F. Fidlar, Davenport.
Junior Grand Warden—Geo. W. Lipe, Council Bluffs.
Grand Treasurer—Almor Stearn, Logan.
Grand Secretary—Theodore Sutton Parvin, Cedar Rapids.
Grand Custodian to succeed W. P. Allen, deceased—Charles C. Clark, Burlington.

The following are the appointments of the Grand Master for the ensuing year:

Right Worthy Deputy Grand Master—Sumner Miller, (147) Guttenberg.
Worthy Deputy Grand Secretary—N. R. Parvin.
Right Worthy Grand Chaplain—Rev. J. I. Farley (301), New Virginia.
Worthy Senior Grand Deacon—M. R. Ansbach (140), Clarinda.
Worthy Junior Grand Deacon—L. W. Knowlton (102), Osage.
Worthy Senior Grand Steward—Geo. Sinclair (508), Sioux City.
Worthy Junior Grand Steward—D. W. Swartz (12), Keokuk.
Worthy Grand Marshal—C. B. Mills, Sioux Rapids.
Worthy Grand Tyler—A. N. Alberson, (26) Washington.

Mason City was selected as the place of the next meeting, and we know that this means another socially interesting meeting, for the Masons of our old home town have a fine idea of their duty in the treatment of guests.

Wednesday evening the delegates and the ladies were the guests for the evening of Harmony Chapter No. 25, O. E. S., at Odd Fellows' hall, where they were entertained by an interesting play, followed by dancing. "The Old Maids' Convention," given some time ago by the ladies of Unity Guild, was repeated with a number of specialties to strengthen it. The arrangements for the evening were admirable, the committee having done everything to insure a pleasant evening. Past worthy matrons and worthy patrons formed the reception committee, and the hall was most tastefully decorated with banners of welcome, flags, bunting, palms, and above all, the star of the order edged with smilax. A punch bowl buried in smilax and roses formed the center of attraction during the dance, and excellent music was provided by Prof. Whaley's orchestra. While many were attending this reception others were taking in "the midway" or seeking the rest that was well earned after a full day in the Grand Lodge.

HOTEL ATKINS-LACY.

While we have in mind that all did their duty in the entertainment, we do think that the Grand was the only hotel in the city that outdid the Hotel Atkins-Lacy in the number of guests and the manner in which they boasted around of the landlady's management of their comfort. It was some like her boys at the Lake last summer, full but happy crowd.

The matter of a change in the present method of communicating the secret work was taken up and exhaustively discussed. The final outcome was the adoption of a substitute to the report of the committee, presented by Judge Granger. The plan

decided upon provides for district schools of instruction, the master of each lodge in the district to be a representative, but he is to be the custodian of the secret work for his particular lodge.

In our July number we shall try to have a review of the official proceedings on such legislation as is of importance to the Craft, and will exuse further lack of fullness in this item on the ground that we could not get there in time to observe the proceedings, and did not have time to attend to the offer of the Deputy Grand Secretary to supply a resume for us. He has our thanks for the courtesy.

MASONIC INSURANCE.

While other Grand Jurisdictions have delivered themselves on the above question it must not be supposed that Iowa has been indifferent to the seeming grave conditions involved. Last year the Grand Lodge had out a committee on the subject and its report as adopted read as follows: "We have made diligent inquiry into the matter, and while we are opposed to the use of the word 'Masonic' in the names of corporations doing an insurance or other business which is not strictly under the control of a Grand Lodge of Masons, we are under the necessity of recognizing the fact that the Grand Lodge of Iowa has no authority to act in the matter, but it is purely a subject for state legislation."

While this is a sensible position to take, we wonder how the "Ancient landmark protectors" beyond our borders will receive it, and how some in Iowa, who think that the Grand Lodge can do ANYTHING, will be able to hold themselves down. How they have missed criticism on it so far is a poser.

BROTHER SCHMENKE'S RESOLUTION.

At the Grand Lodge in 1897, Brother Schmenke (6) offered the following Resolution:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Grand Lodge that we disapprove the display of Masonic emblems in or about saloons; and we beg the cities in which we hold meetings to see that this display does not occur."

The last clause was struck out and the resolution was adopted.

The edict of the Grand Master (Dewey) of Iowa against intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Peru, was received May 31 and has been read to the Lodges. The late Grand Master is orthodox to the core.

Waterloo expressed their profound regrets for the departure of Geo. Turner and his family from their midst by many efforts to have him remain, and their affection by presenting publicly, with many words of high regard, on May 19, 1898, handsome and valuable rings of gold. It will be many a day before "Jo." fades from the memories of the Waterloo people.

MASONIC PERIODICALS.

Solomon said in his day, that "of making books there is no end." Had the wise man have lived 'till these later days he would have substituted *Masonic periodicals* for books, for they are increasing very much faster than the numerical growth of the order or the demands of the times. It is not necessary that every state jurisdiction should have its *organ*; that is nonsense. What we want is a few standard periodicals, ably conducted by well-informed Masons, that shall enlighten the craft. The majority of Masonic periodicals of to-day are more of the class of our daily newspapers rather than partaking of that of the standard, leading periodicals, whose pages are teeming with valuable literary contributions and not news items. Masonry does not court these latter, and with the multiplicity of newspapers, and so much that is Masonic that finds its way into them, the Masonic student has no time to waste upon such.

Since the publication of our report last year, in which we gave a list of the Masonic periodicals regularly received, filed and bound in the Library, the following *new* periodicals have been started and are received in the same department.—*T. S. Parvin, Report 1898.*

HOME SEEKERS' EXCURSION.

Under date of May 3d and 17th and June 7th and 21st, the C., M. and St. Paul Ry. will sell round trip excursion tickets to principal points in the West, Northwest and South at the extreme low rate of One Fare for the round trip plus $2.00. For information regarding sale of these tickets please apply to

C. L. Sherwood,
Passenger and Ticket Agent,
Cedar Rapids, Ia.

COMMANDERIES.

THE GRAND COMMANDERY.

This is the next gathering of the friends in Conclave from among the Great Masonic family of Iowa. This year the opening day will be July 14, and no doubt services by the Grand Prelate will be held the Sunday before as is the custom. Reduced rates will be granted on all rail roads and many should go.

ASCENSION DAY.

We have word from a few of the Commanderies that they observed this day. At Anamosa, with Rev. Frank Brush as orator; at Des Moines, with an addres by Rev. H. W. Tilden. Buffalo Chapter of Rose Croix, Buffalo, N. Y., held an assembly on the day.

THE SCOTTISH RITE.

The Sixteenth Special Reunion and reception of candidates was held at Des Moines on May 31, June 1, 2 and 3. The ballustre was a fine one. We hear that it was a successful and profitable occasion.

We have heard that the Rite at Clinton will meet some time this or next month.

THE ROYAL ARCH.

W. D. Irvine, Grand High Priest of Iowa, has granted a dispensation to the Companions of Sioux Rapids, Iowa, for a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in their town and has appointed as its first officers, J. F. Henriques, High Priest; H. H. Hunter, King, and G. C. Allison, Scribe.

The new Chapter has a very promising outlook, as it will be well supported by the fraternity in its vicinity. Among the charter members are four or more Nobles of El-Kahir Temple.

OUR DEAD.

We wi l consider it a favor if our readers will send us the names and date of deaths among the Masonic Family,—Editor.

Noble E. W. Crockett, Alden, May 31, '98

THE MYSTIC SHRINE.

If one may judge by the list of Committees set forth by Syrian Temple for "The Opening of Coney Island," May 27th, it was a gorgeous affair. Syrian always was some at entertainments. This was an outdoor affair.

Noble Geo. W. Bever, ex Recorder of El-Kahir Temple, has organized a company of light artillery and expects to take an active part in the war with Spain.

"Mecca's big four," Geo. W. Millar, Jas. McGee, Saram R. Ellison and August Peters went from New York, by special car(s) to the Imperial Council. The old Mother Temple does not do much at changing her representatives from year to year.

Moolah announced a rate of $7 for the round trip from St. Louis to Dallas and return. Nearly 1-6 regular rate. That beats G. A. R. prices.

The fifth Annual Carnival of El Zagal Temple of Fargo, N. D., was held June 7th, and it is reported as a huge and successful time.

Moolah had a "Dewey" notice for May 20th. That mine was certainly a whopper.

Wedding bells have been ringing up at Rockford, and our sturdy young Noble, B. Frank Durkee, has committed matrimony. It was on June first and his wife was Miss Edna M. Morehouse. We wish them a long and happy life.

NOBLE E. W. CROCKETT.

Among the candidates at the Webster City meeting was the above named Templar, whose two sons are also members of our Temple (El-Kahir). We were shocked to learn from his son, Noble J. C. Crockett, of his father's death at Alden, Iowa, May 31, 1898. He was a member of Radiant Lodge 336, Evergreen Chapter 55, R. A. M., and a Knight of St. Elmo Commandery K. T. A man well beloved, whose departure his brethren mourn.

ALL EYES ARE ON TEXAS.

Just as we are leaving for the City of Dallas we take a last look at the announcement of the Temples regarding the trip to the Lone Star State, and if the invitations to go, the cheapness of the fare and the side trips speak for anything, then the following lines will read interestingly to those who have to swelter at home while we sweat in Texas.

THE DALLAS TRIP.

The Nobles of the Mystic Shrine held their Imperial Council at Dallas, Texas, this year—June 14-15—and to say that it was a warm number is putting it fairly. Our personal observations going were via Kansas City with the Representatives of El-Kahir, going over the Rock Island Route.

IN KANSAS CITY.

By invitation the travelers were the guests of Ararat Temple, at the Midland. Carriages were at hand from arrival to departure, and sight seeing was but to be desired to be fully arranged. Deputy Imperial Potentate Allen and the Nobles of Ararat have certainly done themselves proud in making the 12th pleasant all around.

Sunday night the caravan was formed and with a special train of sleepers the "rough riders" started on their trip to Dallas. Sixty miles an hour through a new country gives but little time for acquaintance with the natives. Monday afternoon found us landed in Dallas, where, by the time that we were roomed and rested, it was time for

THE IMPERIAL COUNCIL

to open. Talk of "hot times," well, a parade on the streets of Dallas with the usual wait, can only be likened to "hot stuff." After the parade came the opening of the council. With Geo. H. Green, Potentate of Hella to introduce them, came talks of welcome by the honorable Mayor, the Adjutant General of the State and a suitable response by the Imperial Potentate. The ladies were courteously requested to retire, while the Nobles sang "good-bye, ladies," in a plaintive "tune." The business of the session was simply "slid" through in haste, without hurry. No one was cut off in debate and nothing seemed to be left out.

Six cents a mile (one way) and $10 per diem for two days was allowed. Over $15,000 was contributed to charity the past year. The official report shows 47,416 members distributed in 79 Temples in the United States and Canada. A shrine in Manilla, Mexico, in England and other foreign countries was discussed and will likely occur.

India Temple, O. T., was given exclusive jurisdiction over the whole original Indian Territory.

A proposition to make the ballot for rejection one instead of three black balls was submitted and went over to next year.

The Council was invited to attend "Shrine Day" at Omaha, September 14 next, and the invitation was accepted.

Buffalo was selected as the place, June 14 as the time for the next Council.

The Imperial Recorder's salary was raised to $2,000 per year.

It was ordered that remittances for new Nobles must be made immediately after their creation. The balance of the affairs we must leave for future notice since these lines are already late. The people of Dallas showed us "real Southern hospitality," and not one of the many who were there will but wish to go again.

The following officers to serve for the ensuing year were chosen, as follows:

Ethelbert F. Allen of Kansas City, Imperial Potentate; John H. Atwood of Leavenworth, Kan., Imperial Deputy Potentate; Lou B. Winson of Red City, Mich., Imperial Chief Rabban; Philip C. Shafer of Philadelphia, Pa., Imperial Assistant Rabban; Henry C. Akin of Omaha, Imperial High Priest and Potentate; George H. Green of Dallas, Tex., Imperial Oriental Guide; William S. Brown of Pittsburg, Pa., Imperial Treasurer; B. W. Rowell of Boston, Imperial Recorder; Henry Collins of Toronto, Can., First Ceremonial Master; Rial S. Peak of Hartford, Conn., Second Ceremonial Master; George L. Brown of Buffalo, N. Y., Imperial Marshal; Archibald M. Sloan of Chattanooga, Tenn , Imperial Captain of the Guard; Alvah P. Clayton of St. Joseph, Mo., Imperial Outer Guard.

After the installation of officers Council adjourned.

IMPERIAL COUNCIL DRIFT.

It was hot the first day.

The Oriental Hotel, Dallas, is an "open house." Even mosquitoes stop there.

The Iowa delegation got bit the first night. Pennyroyal stopped the depredations thereafter.

Harry Collins, of Toronto, Can., is one of the most popular Shriners in the Council.

"Put me off at Buffalo" was the song that was kept up until the Council voted to go there next year.

IMPERIAL POTENTATE ALLEN.

At the session of the Shriners at Dallas when the result of the election of officers became known the new imperial potentate, E. F. Allen, of Kansas City, was called be-

fore the body and a speech was demanded. With characteristic modesty he responded in part as follows:

"I highly appreciate the great honor you have conferred upon me in this imperial body. While I have been loyal to the instructions received since my advent into the order I assure you that I will exert every effort in my power to further the glory and perpetuity of our beloved organization. The history of the imperial council is one of success since its establishment on American soil. It has chosen over 50,000 Nobles in North America, all of whom are gems of human kind. We no longer have to depend alone upon the dim and distant future, but we are to-day content with the gathering of the buds blossoming along the pathway of human life.

"'Oh, the future sky is the bluest,
Sky with never a cloud in view;
But the sky to-day is the truest sky,
And that is the sky for you.'"

BOOK TABLE.

Thanks to the Grand Secretary of Iowa for copies of the Grand Charity Fund and his own reports. Masonry in Iowa is prosperous and benevolent.

From Grand Secretary Mayo, of Missouri, comes the proceedings of the Grand Chapter for that jurisdiction for the current year. Thanks.

From Chas. E. Markham, Buffalo, N. Y., we have a Roster of the Consistorial bodies in his city. It is well composed and useful. Thanks.

Texas has a fund for the endowment of a home which has now grown to over $100,000, invested in interest bearing securities. The Directors have had ten propositions tendered them for its location, and express a preference for that of North Galveston, on the shores of the bay, the proposed site containing 200 acres. There are ninety-four destitute widows and one hundred and sixty orphans to be cared for in the Home when established.

WHERE TO SPEND YOUR SUMMER VACATION.

A neat little book nicely illustrated and fully answering the above question will be furnished by the C., M. & St. P. Ry. Please apply to C. L. Sherwood, Passenger and Ticket Agent, Cedar Rapids, Ia., for one of these books.

THE FREEMASON AND THE FEZ.

Published Monthly

In the interest of Freemasonry in Iowa, and Fraternity generally.

JOHN WESTLEY GEIGER, K. T., 32°, EDITOR,
P. O. Drawer E, Marion, Iowa, for all business and exchanges.

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HOW TO REMIT:—Send all remittances by some safe method; receipts will be forwarded by return mail.

Address all correspondence to
JOHN WESTLEY GEIGER, Editor.
Drawer E, Marion, Iowa.

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA, JUNE, 1898.

GRAND GATHERINGS.

GRAND LODGES MEET.
Iowa, Council Bluffs, June 7, 1898.

A. R. DEWEY,.....Washington.....GRAND MASTER
T. S. Parvin.....Cedar Rapids.....Grand Secretary

CONVOCATIONS, R. A. M.
Iowa, Grand, Burlington, August 25th, 1898.
W. D. IRVINE.....Sioux City.....GRAND HIGH PRIEST
Alf. Wingate.....Des Moines.....Grand Secretary

CONCLAVES K. T.
Grand Encampment, Pittsburg, Pa., Oct. 1898.
Iowa Grand, Templar Park, July 14, 1898.
F. H. LORING,.....Waterloo.....GRAND COMMANDER
Alf. Wingate.....Des Moines.....Grand Recorder

GRAND CHAPTERS O. E. S.
General Grand (U. S.) 1898.
Iowa, Oct. 26, 1898, Cedar Rapids.
MRS. DELIA B. MEREDITH..Newton..GRAND MATRON
W. H. Norris.....Manchester.....Grand Patron
Mrs. Maria Jackson...Council Bluffs.....Grand Recorder

THE MYSTIC SHRINE.
Imperial Council, Dallas, Texas, June 14, 1898.
El-Kahir Temple, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.
E. I. ALDERMAN ....Marion..... POTENTATE
John Westley Geiger.....Marion..... .....Recorder

Kaaba Temple, Davenport, Iowa.
GEO. F. WHITE.....Davenport.....POTENTATE
C. J. Brown.....Davenport.....Recorder

Tangier Temple, Omaha, Nebraska.
H. HARDY.....Omaha.....POTENTATE
S. R. Crickmore.....Box 523, Omaha.....Recorder

EDITORIAL NOTES

To old friends Greetings. To new friends we extend Welcome. To all we express our coutinued loyalty to the cause we have espoused. This is the time when the weary ones retire to the shade and the old stand-by's will have to hunt the quorum. Watch it.

Some well informed brother should ask the W. M. of No. 25 where he buys his socks. Better stand off aways when you ask.

Stability is a quality that is to be rated above prices that commonly rule. Of all the poor, pitiful spectacles is the frivolous changeful mortal who must consult the popular emotion of each day to find where he's *at*.

Masonry should possess the power to find levels as well as raise perpendiculars, and her votaries should ever be willing to consider *every side* of the work planned to be wrought out, else it promises only disappointment, and shame and defeat.

The Grand Master of Peru, who ordered the Bible to be taken from the altar, is Mr. Christian Dam. Now if his surname were used for his given name, and the word Phool hyphenated after it, it would look just right. —*Rambo Taggart's Times.*

But, Andy, if you were out here you'd be called down for using language capable of a "double meaning." See how your transposition would read in print—"Mr. Dam Phool Christian, Grand Master of Peru." Oh, that's wicked.

MASONIC TOURISTS.

A Masonic and Educational Vacation Party is now being organized in Pennsylvania for a summer excursion to Europe, at an exceedingly low rate of fare, and it promises to be one of the most delightful trips ever taken. They will leave New York on Saturday, July 2, 1898, by the fine steamer 'Berlin,' visiting Ireland, England, France, Switzerland, etc. A splendid opportunity is here given to Masons, their friends and ladies for a first-class summer outing. Rest assured that the very best service will be maintained in both directions. An organization will take place on the steamer, and the members of the Craft will be entertained in Dublin, as well as by the English brethren. It will not, however, be strictly a Masonic party, and many ladies and gentlemen not connected with the Order have signified their intention of joining. This excursion affords a splendid opportunity to persons interested in attending the '98 Centennial Celebrations in Ireland this summer, as the steamship tickets are good for twelve months. For program and full information address A. M. Rambo, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, Pa., who will accompany the party.

FRATERNITIES.

The editor of this journal is looking for information which will be used for the common good in this department. Address, Drawer E, Marion Iowa.

Miss Carrie Davis, daughter of Gen. W. L. Davis of this city, is winning well deserved praise in Ontario as Deputy Supreme Commandress of the Ladies of the Maccabees. She is instituting many Hives of that branch of the Order.

A big log rolling of the W. O. W. was held in Cedar Rapids early in this month.

The State Reunion of the A. O. U. W. held here was a success and much good was done for the growing Order.

There is no question so likely to set men to thinking as the uncalled for statements of competition, in which the failure of one class of organizations is prophesied by the representatives of another, and the result will be to the detriment of the liar.

One thing is beyond controversy, and that is, that the indemnity of the poor man who is dependent on his toil for his living is a matter for which the Fraternal Orders deserve praise rather than censure.

The Bee Hive—organ of the K. O. T. M. is undoubtedly the best fraternal monthly sent out by any Supreme Jurisdiction in the country, and it is filled with live matter, too. We welcome it.

The Loyal Workman (Iowa Organ), is changed from a 16 to a 32-page magazine and is thereby much improved.

"The Rebekah World" is a new advocate of the Rebekah branch of the I. O. O. F. It is 32-page magazine form, $1.00 a year; Mrs. Nelly L. Harris editor, Times Building, Chicago.

The Knights Templar and Masons Life Indemnity Company has withdrawn from further work in Missouri. Reason—objects to Missouri law on "suicides."

Well, we must say, this is courtesy. What is it to a Lodge in California whether a brother belonging to a lodge in England or some other country owes his own Lodge dues? On the same principle a man might ask his friend for a receipt from his grocer and all other persons to whom his friend might be indebted before he would extend to him the hospitality of his home.—*Pacific Mason.*

ARE THE RATES OF LECAL RESERVE COMPANIES TOO HIGH?

AN EIGHTY-FIVE PER CENT. REBATE.

The Chicago *Inter-Ocean* contained the following some time since: "Considerable rebating has been going on in local life insurance circles. It is charged that two or three companies belonging to the anti-rebate compact have given as much as eighty-five per cent. off. The managers of the companies have not yet secured sufficient definite information to warrant the filing of charges." This, if true, looks as if it were possible to furnish life insurance down somewhere near Royal Arcanum rates, and if we only keep quiet awhile longer, we may really get the bulk of the straight insurance business, as the "Old Liners" are devoting all their energies to the endowment feature with which they can make some millions of dollars more out of the ordinary man's cupidity.—*R. A. Guide.*

BROOK FARM.

It is not generally known that "in the forties" a company of Socialists, composed of some of the leading liberal minds of New England, like Dana, Dwight, Channing, Burton, Parker and Hawthorne, occupied a place in Roxbury, Mass., which was known as "Brook Farm," where they intended to give the world an example of unselfish surrender for the common good, but which, alas, like all such plans tried since, failed because the biting acid of selfishness ate into "Brook Farm" and the desintegration began even with the earliest dreams of its founding.

OUR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY.

Concerning our most cherished privileges, civil, political and religious, R. M. Ballantyne in his preface to "Erling the Bold," says, "Very much of the religious, civil and political liberty which we enjoy at the present time—the liberty of the press, freedom of speech, the influence of public opinion over public affairs, and many of our most cherished institutions, such as representative legislation, trial by jury, in short, the spirit of the age, and the germs of the British Constitution—may be traced to the Norsemen of old, those sturdy Vikings or sea rovers, who marauded, conquered and settled in this country at various times between the fifth and eleventh centuries."

UNSELFISHNESS—DOES IT PAY?

In the rare case of individuality one may begin all unselfishly to throw himself bravely into the fight for manliness, but, to quote Hawthorne, "As regards society at large, we stand in a position of new hostility, rather than new brotherhood," and unless the resources exceed the whole of the opposition it is a hopeless, a useless task to strive in the minority—and alone. But shall one, therefore, fall back into the oblivion of the selfish, greedy world? I can't tell for others, but for myself—I'll be free and true, or suffer it out alone. To ask the question, then, does unselfishness pay? I answer yes—in stripes and tears and poverty and abuse and loneliness from the majority—but in joy, confidence, cheer and fellowship with the few—it does pay!

TOO MUCH JOINING.

When in Boston we witnessed the great May Irwin in "Too Much Johnson"—a New England classic. We thought of the fellows we saw be-jeweled and be-badged until it was hard to tell whether they were "poor and weary pilgrims traveling from afar" or street fakirs who, with knightly jewels emblazoned on velvet shields, were crying their wares. It was, to use the words of one of them (fakirs), "the time to celebrate, and jubilate, and decorate." If we all wore the insignia of the "several" degrees, we'd make a holy show, and unsophisticated foreigners would drop their jaws to look after us as we passed by, thinking us some battle-scarred hero from a hundred victories, and the clanking of charms would tinkle like the bells on the High Priest's robe. One of the social diseases of the times is too much joining. We cannot be content with the primary purpose of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, but we must conform to the mad rush and go in for a long list of reasons, none of which are sufficient to justify us. We sometimes think "what a ridiculous caper a man cuts who belongs to a dozen different Orders, not one of which could or would reach beyond a most superficial degree of usefulness to him.

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B.C.R.&N.RY.

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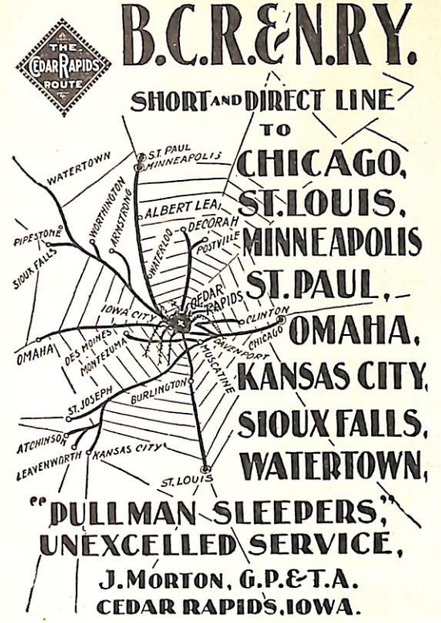

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